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CATTLE GENE MAPPING BEGINS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—Finding the way from one city to another is as easy as looking at a map. U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists are working to someday make cattle selection just as simple.

As part of a major effort by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, scientists at the Roman L. Hruska U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (MARC) at Clay Center, Neb., are mapping cattle's overall genetic makeup—called the genome.

“By identifying genes or groups of genes that control cattle traits, the industry will be able to produce the types of beef most desired by consumers,” said R. Dean Plowman, ARS administrator. “That will give farmers, ranchers and the meat processing industry a better means of tailoring production to specific needs and markets, and thereby improve profitability.”

Once researchers have pinpointed the location of specific genes that control certain traits, the information can be used to selectively breed to produce animals with those genes. Breeders and researchers now rely heavily upon statistical methods to identify animals of a specific genetic makeup.

Using the new information, an animal might be bred to carry the genes to produce especially lean meat, or for disease resistance or easy calving if the animal is likely to be placed in a setting such as rangeland where close supervision by the farmer is difficult.

“A gene map is a place to start, not a place to reach,” said Dan Laster, MARC director. “A genetic map will not provide technology; a map of the genome for each species must be constructed before useful technology can be efficiently developed.”

The goal of the project is to identify evenly spaced genes, or markers, along each of the 29 chromosomes that make up the bovine genome, said research chemist Craig W. Beattie, who heads the genome project at MARC.

Marker genes will represent various production traits of economic importance to consumers, farmers and ranchers, such as reproductive performance, meat quality, disease resistance and genes that control

formation of lean and fat. They will also help researchers identify the genetic matter between the markers.

Eight scientists and additional support personnel will work on the \$2 million project at MARC. Scientists will also conduct research to map the swine genome.

The majority of the work will require the use of DNA probes to identify the gene markers. Each probe will bind to a specific form of a gene, known as an allele.

Although the project is in its initial phase, researchers are not starting from scratch. Scientists expect to use existing maps of the human and mouse genomes to build on current livestock gene maps, which are comparatively sparse.

About 80 percent of the base sequences—the chemical components—that make up cattle genes match with those in the human, Beattie said. Probes made from human DNA could seek out and bind to identical bovine genes, speeding the mapping process. Bovine probes may also assist the human genome mapping efforts, he said.

A report on the research project appears in the November issue of *Agricultural Research* magazine, the monthly publication of the Agricultural Research Service.

Marcie Gerrietts (309) 685-4011

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MUTANT CORN UPSETS PLANT GROWTH IDEA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—A type of mutant corn has led U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists to challenge a century-old hypothesis of how plants grow.

While working at the University of Missouri, Allen D. Wright, now a scientist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, Ames, Iowa, discovered a mutant corn that is defective in making an amino acid called tryptophan.

Scientists have believed that plants must have tryptophan to produce the plant hormone "indole-3-acetic acid" or IAA. IAA plays a critical role in growing processes such as root formation, flowering and fruit set. It also affects post-harvest ripening and fresh-market quality in fruits and vegetables.

But subsequent tests by ARS plant physiologist Jerry D. Cohen, Beltsville, Md., showed the mutant corn—minus tryptophan—produces 50 times as much IAA as a normal plant.

According to the scientists, the results contradict the belief that tryptophan is necessary for production of IAA.

When the manufacture of tryptophan is blocked, the scientists concluded, other precursors with links to both tryptophan and IAA accumulate and “forcefeed” the production of IAA by the plant.

Wright and Cohen said the new knowledge could help scientists eventually breed stress-tolerant crops and develop growth regulators to improve the quality of food crops.

Wright started the research when he noticed that the mutant corn had a strange odor. A colleague suggested the odor was that of indole, a vital ingredient in producing tryptophan.

After Wright and co-workers found the mutant was defective in making tryptophan, Wright realized the mutant offered a means of testing the hypothesis regarding tryptophan and IAA.

Wright contacted Cohen at the ARS Plant Hormone Laboratory in Beltsville where earlier studies involving carrots and duckweed had led Cohen and his colleagues to suspect that tryptophan actually was not a required precursor to IAA.

“It’s not often that scientists get the opportunity to rewrite a whole section of modern textbooks,” Cohen said. “This discovery has profound significance for our work as we seek to improve processes affecting growth and product quality of crop plants. It changes how we view these processes.”

Wright and Cohen are cooperating on additional experiments to identify specific steps in how plants make IAA without tryptophan.

Ben Hardin (309) 685-4011

#

USDA PLANS TO STREAMLINE FOOD STAMP SYSTEM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today published proposed rules for systems to computerize the food stamp program so recipients can purchase food by using plastic cards like those used to access bank accounts electronically.

The plan—proposed by USDA during consideration of the 1990 Farm Bill—allows states to set up electronic-benefits-transfer (EBT) systems to replace paper food stamps, said Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan.

“We are proposing this step into the electronic age to make it easier for the millions of Americans who rely on the food stamp program at some point in their lives,” Madigan said.

Besides providing better service and financial flexibility to recipients, the proposal insures that food dollars are spent on food, cuts fraud and trafficking, and streamlines administration, he said.

Several pilot projects to test the system are fully operational, Madigan said, adding, “almost everyone involved in the pilot projects were enthused about the EBT system,” Madigan said. “The regulations we’ve proposed make it a real possibility for states to use this timesaving technology.” He added that the 1990 Farm Bill encouraged an increased use of the technology.

On-line EBT projects are underway in Reading, Pa., Baltimore, Md., Albuquerque, N.M. and Ramsey County, Minn. Two off-line projects are being tested in Dayton, Ohio and Casper, Wyo.

Under an EBT system, food stamp users apply for their benefits in the usual way, by filling out a form at the food stamp certification office. Once eligibility and the level of benefits are determined, recipients have an account opened in their name and receive a plastic EBT card, protected with a personal identification number (PIN).

When paying for groceries, food stamp customers have their cards run through an electronic reader, enter their PIN, and their account is debited for the amount of purchase.

No money and no food stamps exchange hands, and all of the accounting is done automatically by computer. Money from food stamp purchases is credited to the retailer’s bank account. Rules barring purchases of non-food items apply as with the old system.

Madigan said the Food Stamp Program uses approximately 2.5 billion coupons each year. They are handled by 223,000 retailers, who make two million deposits each month in 10,000 financial institutions. Banks, in turn, make more than 40,000 food stamp deposits each month in the Federal Reserve District Banks.

“The coupons are counted at each step in the cycle, and the accounting is enormously complex,” Madigan said. “Retailers and banks like EBT

because it eliminates much of the paper handling involved with paper coupons and automates much of the accounting.

“It is also an effective tool against fraud and trafficking because it eliminates the coupon, which has become a secondary currency to some people,” he said.

Recipients also are happy with the system, Madigan said. EBT gives them financial flexibility and extends buying power of their benefits.

The new regulations lay out the standards states must meet to operate an EBT system. They address such issues as the EBT plan states must file; protection of the rights of food stamp clients and retailers; the number of EBT terminals that stores must have available; and cost effectiveness.

“The Farm Bill stipulated that EBT systems must cost no more than the conventional paper-based system,” Madigan said. “Our pilot projects have steadily lowered the cost of doing business with EBT, but it is still higher than the old system.”

Cost effectiveness will be the biggest challenge for the states, Madigan said.

The proposed regulations on EBT, published in today’s Federal Register, will be open to comment until Feb. 13, 1992 before they are revised into a final rule. Those wishing to comment should send their remarks in triplicate to Jeffrey N. Cohen, Room 718, FNS, USDA, 3101 Park Center Dr., Alexandria, Va. 22302. Comments will be available for inspection at that address from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Phil Shanholtzer (703) 305-2313

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USDA ANNOUNCES 1992 NATIONAL PEANUT POUNDAGE QUOTA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the national peanut poundage quota of 1,540,000 short tons, or 3,080 million pounds, for the 1992 marketing year. The 1992 quota is 10,000 short tons (20 million pounds) less than the 1991 quota.

Keith Bjerke, administrator of USDA’s Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, said USDA is required by the 1990 Farm Bill to

announce the final national poundage quota for the 1992 marketing year by Dec. 15.

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, requires the national poundage quota for the 1992 crop to be equal to the quantity of peanuts that will be devoted to domestic edible, seed and related use in the 1992 marketing year. The 1992 marketing year begins Aug. 1, 1992.

The 1992 crop national poundage quota will be allocated to each state based on the state's share of the 1990 crop national poundage quota.

Decreases in a state's poundage quota will be allocated among qualifying farms.

Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206

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1991-CROP WHEAT MAY NOT ENTER FARMER-OWNED RESERVE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan today announced 1991-crop wheat will not be allowed into the Farmer-Owned Reserve.

Under provisions of the 1990 Farm Bill, the entry of 1991-crop wheat into the FOR must be announced by Dec. 15. The secretary must allow entry when the average market price for wheat for the 90 days preceding the announcement is less than 120 percent of the wheat price support rate and the 1991 estimated wheat ending stocks-to-use ratio is more than 37.5 percent.

If only one condition is met, the secretary may allow entry. Since neither condition is met, there is no authority to allow entry of 1991-crop wheat into the FOR.

The following factors were used in this decision:

- 120 percent of wheat price support rate, \$2.45 per bushel;
- 90-day wheat average market price, \$3.01 per bushel;
- estimated 1991-1992 wheat ending stocks, 414 million bushels;
- estimated 1991-1992 wheat use, 2,472 million bushels;
- estimated 1991-1992 wheat ending stocks-to-use ratio, 414 million bushels divided by 2,472 million bushels = 16.7 percent.

The source for the last three factors is the Dec. 11 issue of World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates.

Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206

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WEED FIGHTING BACTERIA UNDERGO FIELD TESTS IN FIVE STATES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—Beneficial bacteria that stifle downy brome, one of the worst weeds in wheat, are being tested in five Western states by U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists.

“The bacteria occur naturally in soil and produce a toxin that stunts downy brome, and prevents some of its seeds from sprouting, but leaves the wheat plants unharmed,” says Ann C. Kennedy, a soil microbiologist with USDA’s Agricultural Research Service in Pullman, Wash.

Downy brome, also known as cheatgrass, costs wheat growers more than \$300 million each year in lower yields, Kennedy says. The weed was accidentally introduced to this country from Eastern Europe in the 1800s, and no herbicides consistently or effectively control it, she notes.

“Besides being safer for the environment, the bacteria would likely be less expensive than herbicides,” says Kennedy, with the ARS Land Management and Water Conservation Research Laboratory. One chemical commonly used against downy brome works only sporadically and costs \$18 per acre. The bacterial treatment could be less than half that price, she hopes.

This fall, she and colleagues began the first multi-location tests of the bacteria, a *Pseudomonas* species known as D7. The six test sites are in major wheat-producing areas near Ritzville and Pullman, Wash.; Pendleton, Ore.; Lewiston, Idaho; Akron, Colo. and Fort Hays, Kan.

After screening more than 3,000 *Pseudomonas* species, the scientists selected D7 as the most powerful downy brome inhibitor.

Earlier greenhouse and small-scale field tests showed the D7 bacteria could suppress the weed in winter wheat. If this year’s larger outdoor tests succeed, Kennedy anticipates that D7 could be available to farmers within five to 10 years.

Kennedy grew the bacteria on petri dishes in her laboratory to get large amounts for the field tests. She mixed the microorganisms in a liquid buffer, which formed a slightly milky solution with a yellowish tinge.

“We just dribble the solution in the seed furrow, right on top of the wheat after planting,” she explains. “That way, the helpful microorganisms get nutrients they need to survive by colonizing the germinating wheat kernel.”

Kennedy’s collaborators on the tests include Randy L. Anderson, ARS,

Akron; Phil Stahlman, Kansas State University; Dan Ball, Oregon State University; and Don Thill, University of Idaho.

Julie Corliss (510) 559-6069

#

GRANTS AWARDED FOR OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS PEOPLE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded more than \$250,000 in grants to six nonprofit organizations to provide more food assistance to homeless Americans, a USDA official announced today.

The groups receiving the grants will be working to demonstrate effective methods of reaching homeless people and helping them make better use of the available USDA food assistance programs.

“The main focus of these projects is to encourage homeless persons to make use of their food stamp eligibility,” said Catherine Bertini, assistant secretary of agriculture for food and consumer services. “They will also help facilitate the new provision in the Farm Bill which enables homeless people to use food stamps for low-cost meals in participating restaurants.”

The 1990 Farm Bill included a provision for restaurants to offer lowcost meals to homeless people in exchange for food stamps. The new law parallels a long-standing provision allowing elderly and disabled persons to use food stamps in some restaurants.

Bertini said participating restaurants will contract with the states to provide meals to homeless patrons, at agreed-upon prices, in exchange for food stamps. She said states would set standards and procedures for restaurants, and would issue ID cards to homeless food stamp participants.

Bertini said the grants are part of an ongoing effort to help homeless people make better use of food assistance programs. Regulations were changed to allow people with no fixed address to receive food stamps.

In addition, she said USDA expects to donate more than \$260 million worth of food in 1992 to programs that assist homeless people, including food for soup kitchens, charitable institutions, and The Emergency Food Assistance Program. USDA also participates in the federal government’s

Interagency Council on the Homeless. Provided through USDA's Food and Nutrition Service, the new awards include:

—Street Sheet Resources, Inc., New York City, \$46,452. Street Sheet is a newspaper for homeless people, professionally designed and printed on nearly indestructible "Tyvek" paper, that provides information about shelter, meals and other services. The grant will be used to develop a brochure describing how and where homeless people can get food stamps.

—Partnership for the Homeless, Inc., New York City, \$48,040. The Partnership operates the nation's largest private shelter network and permanent housing program for the homeless. The grant will enable them to add food program specialists and training to their outreach and referral campaign in mid-town Manhattan.

—Sisters of the Road Cafe, Portland, Oregon, \$44,783. A nonprofit cafe providing low-cost meals, counseling and job training in the "skid row" section of Portland, the Sisters of the Road has been cited as one of only a few homeless meal providers making effective use of food stamps. With its grant, Sisters will prepare a how-to manual and workshop training sessions for others interested in its approach.

—Salt Lake Community Health Centers, Inc., Utah, \$42,449. The Centers are the lead agency for a coalition of service organizations that have developed a system of volunteer outreach and assistance to people living in "homeless camps" on the outskirts of Salt Lake City. The grant will be used to add a nutrition focus to their health-oriented outreach and educational efforts, and to recruit "corporate volunteers" to join in providing low-cost meals for homeless and elderly food stamp recipients.

—Imani, Incorporated, Springfield, Illinois, \$48,850. Imani is a grassroots, self-help organization working in coordination with church and service groups and with the Springfield Fair Housing Authority. Its FNS grant will be used to support "peer counselors" from the low-income community for one-on-one street outreach and to help homeless people find services and jobs.

—York County Shelters, Inc., Alfred, Maine, \$22,571. The York County Shelters provide a variety of services, including job opportunities in their "Operation BREAD" bakery, to homeless people over a large, mostly rural area. Their grant will be used to support a special emphasis on food stamp outreach and special encouragement to restaurant operators to participate in the program.

Phil Shanholtzer (703) 305-2313

#

USDA ANNOUNCES 1992-CROP FLUE-CURED TOBACCO PROGRAM; SETS REFERENDUM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced the provisions of the 1992 flue-cured tobacco program: —The national marketing quota for the 1992 crop is 891.8 million pounds, up from the 1991 quota of 877.9 million pounds, and is based on the following:

	<i>Million Lbs.</i>
— Purchase intentions by domestic cigarette manufacturers	497.2
— Unmanufactured exports (3 yr. average)	393.7
— Reserve stock adjustment	0.9
— Discretionary adjustment	0
— The national average yield goal remains unchanged at 2,088 pounds per acre.	
— The support level for the 1992 crop is \$1.560 per pound, up 3.2 cents from 1991.	
— The national acreage allotment for the 1992 crop is 427,107 acres, up from the 1991 allotment of 420,354 acres.	
—For each farm, the 1992 basic quota and allotment will increase about 1.5 percent from 1991.	
— The effective quota is expected to be about 899 million pounds, or 7 million above 1991.	
—The marketing assessment under amendments contained in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 will be 0.780 cents per pound, on both growers and buyers, for a total of 1.560 cents per pound for the 1992 crop of flue-cured tobacco.	
—The no-net-cost program assessment will be announced later.	
—Flue-cured tobacco growers will vote Jan. 6-9 in a mail referendum to decide whether marketing quotas on an acreage-poundage basis will continue for flue-cured tobacco for the next three years. Quotas will remain in effect if less than one-third of the voting producers vote no.	

Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206

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USDA SEEKS COMMENTS PROPOSED CHANGES IN ASSESSMENTS FOR COTTON BOARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is seeking comments on a proposal to amend the assessment provisions of the National Cotton Board's rules and regulations so they reflect certain provisions on cotton assessments in the 1990 Farm Bill.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said the proposed changes reflect the Farm Bill's requirement that imported cotton and cotton-containing products be assessed fees commensurate with those assessed on domestic cotton. Remitted to the Cotton Board, the assessments fund projects advancing the position of cotton in the marketplace.

The proposed rule changes would establish specific instructions on who would collect the assessments on the imports, and how they would be collected; would identify cotton and cotton products subject to assessment; would establish procedures for stipulating their rates; would define exemptions to assessment; and would establish reimbursement procedures for assessments collected on U.S.-produced cotton re-entering the United States as textile products.

Details of the proposal will appear in the Dec. 17 Federal Register. Comments should be sent to Craig Shackelford, Cotton Division, Room 2641-S, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456. Copies of the Federal Register notice are available from Shackelford at (202) 720-2259.

Alicia L. Ford (202) 720-8998

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ALTERED PRICING BASES PROPOSED FOR MILK FOR POWDER IN THREE MILK ORDERS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is proposing to change the bases for pricing milk used to make nonfat dried milk in one Western and two Eastern federal milk marketing orders.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said that in the New England, Middle Atlantic and Pacific Northwest orders, prices paid farmers for milk used for non-fat dried milk no longer would be based on the so-called "M-W price," which is

the price paid for Grade B (manufacturing grade) milk in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

In the Eastern orders, the price during a given month would be based on the average market price paid in the "Central states" for non-fat powder minus a 12.5 cents per pound "make" allowance, i.e., an allowance for the cost of "making" milk into powder. Factors to account for the value of the milk as it leaves the farm also would be included in the formula.

(The Central states are Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. States in the New England order are Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. States in the Middle Atlantic order are the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia.) The formula for the Pacific Northwest order (affecting Washington, Oregon and part of Idaho) would differ only in that its base would be taken from the average price of nonfat dry milk in the "Western Area," i.e., Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

The new prices would be termed "Class III-A," a subcategory of the traditional Class III price—the lowest priced milk in the milk marketing order system, which for years was based on the M-W price, Haley said.

Because milk priced under the M-W is destined mostly for hard cheese, and because the demand for cheese exceeds that for milk powder, the M-W price (which the processor of dried milk must pay farmers) is higher than the price processors can get for the milk powder. Thus dried milk processors have lost money. The new formula would allow them to pay less for the milk they use, allowing them to stay in business, thereby providing an outlet for seasonally excess milk, Haley said. In the affected milk orders, cheese plant capacity is inadequate to use that milk, and powder is a significant outlet for it, Haley said.

In milk orders with significant cheesemaking capacity, surplus milk would generally be directed to cheesemaking, so the M-W price would continue to be appropriate there, said Haley.

Although milk cooperatives proposing a change from the M-W price basis at a USDA hearing in July requested the change to include milk used for butter as well as powder, the lowering in 1990 of minimum prices paid for milkfat in whole milk already addressed the problem of surplus cream used to make butter, Haley said.

Because the surplus milk pricing issue is critical in the three affected milk orders, USDA is abbreviating rulemaking on this proposal, honoring their proponents' requests to do so.

Details of the proposals will be published as a "tentative decision" in the Dec. 19 Federal Register. This would allow USDA to try out the changes before issuing a final decision on them. As in all amendments to marketing orders, the changes would not become final until approved in a referendum of producers they affect.

Copies of the tentative decision are available from the Dairy Division, Marketing Order Formulation Branch, AMS, USDA, Room 2971-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, Phone (202) 720-6273, or from any milk market administrator's office.

Comments, in six copies and postmarked by Jan. 10, should be sent to the Hearing Clerk, Room 1081-S, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Federal milk marketing orders set minimum prices paid farmers, and assure that milk users have adequate supplies of the milk they use.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 720-6179

#

CONSERVATION COMPLIANCE AT 50-PERCENT MARK

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—Conservation plans prepared by farmers and ranchers to comply with Farm Bill conservation compliance requirements have been fully implemented on almost half of the highly erodible cropland in the United States, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported today.

"We're pleased to reach the halfway point, but we know there is still a big job ahead," said William Richards, chief of USDA's Soil Conservation Service.

"Producers are expected to apply their conservation compliance plans on schedule," Richards said. "I encourage producers to start even earlier than scheduled, especially if they are unfamiliar with any agreed-upon practices."

Under provisions of the 1985 and 1990 Farm Bills, producers with highly erodible cropland need to have conservation plans completely implemented by Dec. 31, 1994, to stay eligible for USDA program benefits. SCS field offices provide technical expertise and work with producers to develop conservation plans. Each year, ranchers and farmers

must certify to USDA that they are actively applying conservation plans on their highly erodible cropland.

“Those who stay in compliance retain eligibility for USDA program benefits,” Richards said. “The American public gains the advantage of less soil erosion and less sediment moving into streams.”

Status reviews, conducted randomly by SCS on 5 percent of the farms, indicate 97 percent of the farmers are making good progress in implementation, Richards said.

More than 135 million acres of highly erodible cropland have conservation plans. Of these, some 67 million acres have plans fully implemented. About 75 percent, or 99 million acres, have plans that call for crop residue management. Crop residue management has environmental benefits—protecting soil from erosion and improving water quality—along with the economic benefits of saving labor and fuel.

The states having the most acres with fully implemented conservation compliance plans are Texas and Kansas. Each has over 8 million acres with plans, and about 70 percent of those plans have been implemented.

The following table summarizes, state by state, acreage with conservation compliance plans completed, acreage with plans using fully applied conservation systems, and the percentage of land for which plans have been fully applied.

Conservation Compliance Plans Completed and Fully Applied

	Acres With Conservation Compliance Plans	Acres With Plans Fully Applied	Percentage of Plans Fully Applied
Totals:	135,332,279	66,958,022	49.5
Alabama	1,691,223	552,265	32.7
Alaska	51,840	24,386	47.0
Colorado	9,749,749	3,769,770	38.7
Connecticut	11,099	3,210	28.9
Delaware	11,128	4,231	38.0
Florida	215,244	166,414	77.3
Georgia	920,878	734,761	79.8

Hawaii	81,309	41,556	51.1
Idaho	3,041,469	1,308,087	43.0
Illinois	4,303,356	2,106,679	49.0
Indiana	2,603,382	778,203	29.9
Iowa	10,774,831	2,833,309	26.3
Kansas	12,240,382	8,513,289	69.6
Kentucky	3,285,225	1,579,090	48.1
Louisiana	212,129	155,624	73.4
Maine	147,578	127,699	86.5
Maryland	306,180	94,324	30.8
Massachusetts	16,285	7,714	47.4
Michigan	634,388	355,122	56.0
Minnesota	2,083,035	1,075,545	51.6
Mississippi	1,561,376	908,653	58.2
Missouri	6,160,702	2,796,826	45.4
Montana	13,775,933	5,700,268	41.4
Nebraska	9,619,657	4,935,345	51.3
Nevada	146,773	122,355	83.4
New Hampshire	5,698	2,533	44.5
New Jersey	78,291	30,081	38.4
New Mexico	1,852,475	916,140	49.5
New York	925,454	482,929	52.2
North Carolina	1,375,807	473,081	34.4
North Dakota	5,364,606	2,734,600	51.0
Ohio	1,732,675	694,867	40.1
Oklahoma	4,952,813	2,195,105	44.3
Oregon	1,538,352	1,044,925	67.9
Pennsylvania	1,996,884	852,070	42.7
Rhode Island	442	400	90.5
South Carolina	369,219	239,356	64.8
South Dakota	3,893,353	2,053,913	52.8
Tennessee	2,438,949	1,133,422	46.5
Texas	12,857,781	8,318,901	64.7

Utah	647,624	373,638	57.7
Vermont	95,649	54,164	56.6
Virginia	1,006,830	353,142	35.1
Washington	3,648,732	1,371,221	37.6
West Virginia	84,214	64,401	76.5
Wisconsin	3,424,768	2,174,796	63.5
Wyoming	1,000,697	891,741	89.1
Puerto Rico	8,272	1,784	21.6

Mary Stine (202) 720-4805

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USDA ANNOUNCES 1992 UPLAND COTTON FINAL ACREAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—Acting Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman today announced a 10 percent final acreage reduction program requirement for the 1992 crop of upland cotton. The figure is the same as the preliminary ARP announced Oct. 31.

The Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, requires the announcement be made by Jan. 1, 1992. It also requires that the ARP target a ratio of total stocks to total disappearance of 30 percent. Based on USDA's December supply and use estimates, the 10 percent ARP level is consistent with this ratio.

Further details of the 1992 upland cotton program will be announced later.

Bruce Merkle (202) 720-8206

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